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~AD HOC REPORT~
War Memorial/ Ct. Institute for Communities (Cont.)
Tuesday, July 21, 2015

Chairman Jack Knapp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, 2015, in the Caucus Room, 3rd Floor, Danbury City Hall, 155 Deer Hill Avenue. Present were Committee members Vinny DiGilio, and Fred Visconti. Also present were Les Pinter, Corporation Counsel; Jim Maloney, Connecticut Institute for Communities; and John Cooke, Chick Volpe, and Matt Gallagher representing the War Memorial; and Margaret Mitchell, member of the public.

Mr. Knapp read the minutes of the previous meeting on the subject with areas to be addressed by the War Memorial Representatives including the playground size and placement as well as the parking and finances.

Mr. Visconti stated he and Mr. Kaplanis walked the playground noting the area is tight. Comments were made regarding egress to the generator area and whether there is room for grass. Mr. Cooke responded to questions regarding the staircase near the trash area. Mr. Volpe commented on low maintenance rubberized playground chip material. He also noted they are anticipating classrooms to be ready for the winter semester. In addition, he answered Mr. Knapp's questions regarding timing for the site plan in relation to the public hearing.

Mr. Maloney responded to Mr. Knapp's questions regarding financing and solvency. He also commented on membership numbers, grants, and the fitness center including the locker rooms. Mr. Pinter responded to Mr. Knapp noting that the City would be involved in the lease as there is a site plan.

Mr. Volpe answered Mr. Pinter's questions regarding playground size, rents, the appraisal, and liability.

Mr. Gallagher commented that this is an anticipated positive for the War Memorial, the community center, and the City, and will generate some revenue. Mr. DiGilio made observations on the positives as well. Mr. Volpe commented on a cooperative concept regarding the pool use and answered questions regarding the preschool Headstart program. Ms. Mitchell inquired regarding the adult fitness center, notably whether the Silver Sneakers group would be included. Mr. Gallagher stated they are looking into it.

A motion was made by Councilman DiGilio and seconded by Councilman Visconti, to recommend current approval of projects agency and the lease agreements between the Connecticut Institute for Families and War Memorial for the use of the War Memorial facility for classrooms and a small playground area subject to arriving at an agreement on rental at a Public Hearing as required and any other relevant land or building use approvals necessary including full site plans. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Visconti and seconded by Councilman DiGilio, that the Ad Hoc Committee be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Knapp, Chairman

Frank DiGilio

Fred Visconti